Claims 1-19 (Canceled)

- 20. (Original) A disposable electrode strip for measuring an analyte in a fluid sample, said strip comprising:
  - a laminated strip having a first strip end, a second strip end and a vent opening spaced from said first strip end, said laminated strip comprising a base layer with at least two electrodes delineated thereon, a reagent holding layer carried on said base layer, said reagent holding layer having at least two cutouts, a channel forming layer carried on said reagent holding layer, and a cover;
  - an enclosed channel between said first strip end and said vent opening, said enclosed channel containing said at least two cutouts;
  - a first reagent disposed in a first cutout of said at least two cutouts forming a reference electrode, said first reagent comprising a reference electrode material selected from the group consisting of silver chloride when said reference electrode is silver and a mixture made by combining at least a redox mediator and at least one binder when said reference electrode is selected from the group consisting of gold, gold/tin oxide, palladium, platinum and carbon composition;
  - a second reagent disposed in a second cutout of said at least two cutouts forming a first working electrode, said second reagent comprising a redox mediator, at least one binder, at least one enzyme that is a substrate of said analyte and a peroxidase capable of catalyzing a reaction involving said redox mediator wherein said redox mediator is oxidized; and
  - conductive contacts at said second strip end and insulated from said enclosed channel.

01/27/2004

- 21. (Original) The electrode strip of Claim 20 further comprising a third cutout and a third reagent disposed in said third cutout forming a second working electrode wherein said third reagent comprises said redox mediator and said at least one binder.
- 22. (Original) The electrode strip of Claim 21 wherein said third reagent further includes said at least one enzyme, a substrate of said at least one enzyme and a peroxidase.
- 23. (Original) The electrode strip of Claim 20 wherein said peroxidase is at least one of soybean peroxidase and horseradish root peroxidase.
- 24. (Original) The electrode strip of Claim 20 wherein said at least one enzyme is one of creatine amidinohydrolase, glucose oxidase and cholesterol oxidase.
- 25. (Original) The electrode strip of Claim 24 wherein said second reagent further includes a second enzyme when said at least one enzyme is one of creatine amidinohydrolase and cholesterol oxidase.
- 26. (Original) The electrode strip of Claim 25 wherein said second enzyme is sarcosine oxidase when said at least one enzyme is creatine amidinohydrolase.
- 27. (Original) The electrode strip of Claim 25 wherein said second enzyme is cholesterol esterase when said at least one enzyme is cholesterol oxidase.
- 28. (Original) The electrode strip of Claim 20 wherein said redox mediator is an inorganic or organic redox species.
- 29. (Original) The electrode strip of Claim 28 wherein said redox species is at least one of Fe(CN)<sub>6</sub><sup>3-</sup>, Fe(CN)<sub>6</sub><sup>4-</sup>, Fe(1,10-phenanthroline)<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup>, Fe(2,2'-bipyridine)<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup>, Co(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>6</sub><sup>2+</sup>, Co(1,10-phenanthroline)<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup>, Co(2,2'-bipyridine)<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup>, Os(2,2'-

bipyridine)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sup>+</sup>, Os(1,10-phenanthrolin )<sub>2</sub>Cl<sup>+</sup>, Ru(2,2'-bipyridine)<sub>2</sub><sup>2+</sup>, Rh(2,2'-bipyridine)<sub>2</sub><sup>2+</sup>, cobalt phthalocyanine, ferrocenes, methylene blue, methylene green, 7,7,8,8-tetracyanoquinodimethane, tetrathiafulvalene, toluidine blue, meldola blue, N-methylphenazine methosulfate, phenyldiamines, 3,3',5,5'-tetramethylbenzidine, pyrogallol, and benzoquinone.

- 30. (Original) The electrode strip of Claim 29 wherein said redox mediator is potassium ferrocyanide.
- 31. (Original) The electrode strip of Claim 20 wherein said enclosed channel is hydrophilic.
- 32. (Original) The electrode strip of Claim 20 wherein said enclosed channel has a volume of about 1.5 microliters.
- 33. (Original) The electrode strip of Claim 20 wherein said cover has a hydrophilic coating on at least one side.
- 34. (Original) The electrode strip of Claim 21 wherein said first reagent, said second reagent and said third reagent are made from a mixture having starting components comprising about 1wt% to about 6.5wt% of said redox mediator, about 1wt% of said binder, and about .02wt% of said surfactant in water.
- 35. (Original) The electrode strip of Claim 34 wherein said first reagent, said second reagent and said third reagent further includes about 0.05wt% to about 0.1wt% of an antioxidant.
- 36. (Original) The electrode strip of Claim 34 wherein said second reagent is made from a mixture having starting components in water comprising about 2wt% of potassium ferrocyanide, about 1wt% of methyl cellulose, about .02wt% of said t-

16:32

- octylphenoxypolyethoxyethanol, about 0.5wt% of glucose oxidase, and about 0.5wt% of soybean peroxidase.
- 37. (Original) The electrode strip of Claim 34 wherein said second reagent is made from a mixture having starting components in water comprising about 5wt% of potassium ferrocyanide, about 1wt% of methyl cellulose, about .02wt% of toctylphenoxypolyethoxyethanol, about 2wt% of cholesterol oxidase, about 1wt% of cholesterol esterase, and about 0.5wt% of soybean peroxidase.
- 38. (Original) The electrode strip of Claim 34 wherein said second reagent is made from a mixture having starting components in water comprising about 2wt% of potassium ferrocyanide, about 1wt% of methyl cellulose, about .02wt% of toctylphenoxypolyethoxyethanol, about 2wt% of creatine amidinohydrolase, about 0.5wt% of sarcosine oxidase, and about 0.5wt% of soybean peroxidase, and wherein said third reagent is made from a mixture having starting components in water comprising about 2wt% of said potassium ferrocyanide, about 1wt% of said methyl cellulose, about .02wt% of said t-octylphenoxypolyethoxyethanol, about 2wt% of said creatine amidinohydrolase, about 0.4wt% of creatinine amidohydrolase, about 0.5wt% of said sarcosine oxidase, and about 0.5wt% of said soybean peroxidase.
- 39. (Original) The electrode strip of Claim 38 wherein said first reagent and said second reagent further includes about 0.05wt% of an antioxidant.
- 40. (Original) The electrode strip of Claim 20 wherein said first reagent and said second reagent are made from a mixture having starting components in water comprising about 2wt% of potassium ferrocyanide, about 1wt% of methyl cellulose, about .02wt% of said t-octylphenoxypolyethoxyethanol, about 0.5wt% of glucose oxidase, and about 0.5wt% of soybean peroxidase.

01/27/2004

- 41. (Original) The electrode strip of Claim 40 wherein said first reagent and said second reagent further includes about 0.1wt% of an antioxidant.
- 42. (Original) The electrode strip of Claim 20 wherein said first reagent and said second reagent are made from a mixture having starting components in water comprising about 5wt% of potassium ferrocyanide, about 1wt% of methyl cellulose, about .02wt% of t-octylphenoxypolyethoxyethanol, about 2wt% of cholesterol oxidase, about 1wt% of cholesterol esterase, and about 0.5wt% of (Original) soybean peroxidase.
- 43. (Original) The electrode strip of Claim 42 wherein said first reagent and said second reagent further includes about 0.1wt% of an antioxidant.
- (Canceled) 44.
- 45. (Original) The electrode strip of Claim 21 wherein the surface area of said first working electrode is substantially the same size as the surface area of said second working electrode.

Claims 46-60 (Canceled)

Claims 61-69 (Withdrawn)